JAPAN, LAND OF FARMERS, FISHERS AND EARTHQUAKES



The Ploughman homeward plods his weary way

J. I. C. Clarke Gives an Intimate View of the Peasants Upon Whose Shoulders Rests the Feeding of the Nation

was reasonably su water, although the of fissure extends alor as it does along the of the American co

Aleutian Islands t







Cleaning and pounding rice.

Upon What Meat Does This Yamato Feed That It Has Grown So Great?



Planting the young rice.

on. Still, one takes some comthe thought that this doubtful
are of stability has been preter some two thousand years of
and tradition, and hence one
property to order one's breakthe morrow without too much
usant has no such misgivings;
they are the eternal hills and
them and the fertile valleys for

they are the eternal hills and the yellowing barley, the dark green of the same and the fertile valleys for imposes with a delightful rustic. His skies are oftener clouded fear. One day in three of the tains, so he has generally water of fer all purposes. In spring and immer the hills fairly gush with the summer sun is hot and so altions for rice growing are wideand excellent.

Japanese. This he supbarley and beans. Poorer
ats much millet, a less acm. Wheat he grows in
creasing quantity. With mandy, but in bottom and upland a respectable army of vegeats fish. Meat is rare indeed, perhaps for a feast day, but in he raises them he prefers to drinks tea.

mandy, but in bottom and upland are great meadows spread out green, with well kept cattle browsing. Not here, well kept cattle are in sight; an ox at the plough perhaps in every three miles, very few horses, but on every road and with the peasants men and



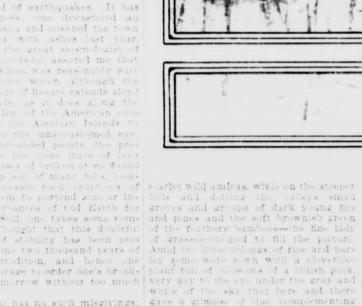
sold. Of course they grew a good deal of their food but they had to buy a deal, a cheaper rice, for instance, than they were growing, all the fish and clothes perhaps some fertilizer and the hundred little things an active household needs, and then some taxes. This was a prosperous farmer in Japan. There are perhaps 1,000,000 such.

Anything be ter than the confident courseauth spirit of these people it would be hard to meet. They talk with enthusiasm of their hopes and their as, and it is used not only cooked in all ways, but also for the sheed from sunges to sunse, using everything wasting nothing with melticulous care of every scrap. When not at work in the fleids they make things for field work at home.

The women when not at work on the farm cooked, mended, made garments, cleaned, swept, using home made brooms. The round of work for the year is set like a ritual—the succession of crops, the sowing, the hoeing, the weeding, the building up of soil in very wet lands for wheat or barley. Men and women work, children too when not at school in the village. Ween mostly reap the crops with a hand stoke, the boys heat the ears off in the fleids the men all take turns in cleaning all bands help at the hauling. It is not tol but victory.

Let us look a little closer at this hard won wooden home of toil which still shelters content, though it may

men, naked except for loin cloths, standflat sweeps, the pars finding leverage on



the foundation of the food shu you can see this minute culti

